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Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

Pursuant to the provisions of section IV, paragraph 2, of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994, the Secretary-General is seeking authority to enter into commitments with assessment in an amount not exceeding $200 million to meet the most immediate anticipated requirements of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC).

The action to be taken by the General Assembly is set out in paragraph 13 of the present report.

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I. Overview

1. On 6 August 1999, the Security Council, in its resolution 1258 (1999), authorized the deployment to the Congo region of up to 90 United Nations military personnel, together with the necessary civilian, political, humanitarian and administrative staff. By its resolution 1273 (1999) of 5 November 1999, the Council extended the mandate of the military liaison personnel deployed under its resolution 1258 (1999) until 15 January 2000.

2. Subsequently, in its resolution 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999, the Security Council, *inter alia*, decided that the personnel authorized under its resolutions 1258 (1999) and 1273 (1999), including a multidisciplinary staff of personnel in the fields of human rights, humanitarian affairs, public information, medical support, child protection, political affairs and administrative support, which would assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, should constitute the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) until 1 March 2000. In paragraph 9 of that resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General, with immediate effect, to take the administrative steps necessary for equipping up to 500 United Nations military observers with a view to facilitating future rapid United Nations deployments as authorized by the Council.

3. On 24 February 2000, the Security Council, by its resolution 1291 (2000), extended the mandate of MONUC until 31 August 2000, and authorized its expansion to consist of up to 5,537 military personnel, including up to 500 observers or more, provided that the Secretary-General determines that there is a need and that it can be accommodated within the overall force size and structure, and appropriate civilian support staff in the areas of human rights, humanitarian affairs, public information, child protection, political affairs, medical support and administrative support, among others, and requested the Secretary-General to recommend immediately any additional force requirements that might become necessary to enhance force protection.

4. The mandate of MONUC is contained in paragraph 7 of Security Council resolution 1291 (2000), and includes monitoring the implementation of the Ceasefire Agreement (S/1999/815, annex) and investigating violations of the ceasefire; establishing and maintaining continuous liaison with the field headquarters of all the parties' military forces and supervising and verifying their disengagement and redeployment; facilitating humanitarian assistance; cooperating closely with the Facilitator of the national dialogue and providing support and technical assistance to him; and deploying mine action experts, coordinating the initiation of mine action activities, developing mine action plans and carrying out emergency mine action activities in support of its mandate.

5. The Council also decided, in paragraph 5 of the same resolution, that the phased deployment of MONUC personnel would be carried out as and if the Secretary-General determines that the Mission's personnel would be able to deploy to their assigned locations and carry out their functions as described in its mandate in conditions of adequate security and with the cooperation of the parties, and that he has received firm and credible assurances from the parties to the Ceasefire Agreement to that effect.

II. Preliminary financial requirements of the Mission

6. Pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1258 (1999) and 1273 (1999), the Controller has obtained the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to enter into commitments in the amount of $8.7 million gross in order to meet the immediate operational requirements for the preliminary deployment of military and civilian personnel to the Congo region.

7. Subsequently, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1279 (1999), the Advisory Committee, in response to a request contained in the Controller's letter dated 16 December 1999 addressed to its Chairman, concurred in entering into further commitments for the establishment of MONUC in the amount of $32.3 million gross. As requested in resolution 1279 (1999), the commitment authority also provided for the acquisition of equipment for the additional military observers and civilian support personnel to be deployed subject to a further decision of the Council (see para. 2 above).

8. The total commitment authority granted by the Advisory Committee for the preliminary deployment of the United Nations in the Congo region and for MONUC amounted to $41.0 million gross, and were provided under the terms of section IV of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A. Against this commitment authority of $41.0 million, as at 29 February 2000 expenditures and obligations totalled $33.3 million, including $29.9 million for the acquisition of equipment and *matériel* and $3.4 million for military and civilian personnel costs. At the end of March 2000, the strength of the MONUC military component reached 103 personnel, supported by 97 civilian staff.

9. In paragraphs 60 to 72 of his report to the Security Council on MONUC (S/2000/30), the Secretary-General set out assumptions, the concept of operations and requirements for the deployment of the Mission, including its military force comprising 4 reinforced protected infantry battalion groups accompanied by 500 military observers, 2 marine companies and the supporting military personnel and equipment, as well as civilian personnel.

10. In his report to the Security Council on the preliminary deployment in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/1999/790), the Secretary-General stated that in order to be effective, any United Nations peacekeeping mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, whatever its mandate, would have to be large and expensive. While the full resource requirements of MONUC are yet to be determined and its full deployment is subject to political, military and logistical constraints, the formidable tasks envisioned for the United Nations under the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement require adequate preparations and subsequent financial support.

11. In this connection, it is imperative that the necessary resources be provided so that immediate steps can be taken to establish the support infrastructure for the Mission, to acquire the necessary additional equipment and supplies and to enter into the necessary contractual arrangements in anticipation of the early phased deployment in the country of the authorized strength of the Mission's military component, together with additional civilian staff. It is tentatively estimated that an amount of $200 million, which is inclusive of the $41.0 million commitment authority granted previously by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, will be needed for requirements under accommodation ($42 million), transport operations ($50 million), communications ($40 million), air

operations ($15 million), equipment ($27 million) and personnel ($26million). While it is clear that expenditures will have to be incurred, a more precise determination cannot be made at this time.

12. Accordingly, the Secretary-General is seeking commitment authority and assessment of $200 million for MONUC at this time, inclusive of $41.0 million previously authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

III. Action to be taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session

13. **Pursuant to the provisions of section IV, paragraph 2, of General Assembly resolution 49/233 A, the Assembly is requested to grant the Secretary-General authority to enter into commitments with assessment in an amount not exceeding $200 million, inclusive of the amount of $41.0 million gross already authorized by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.**